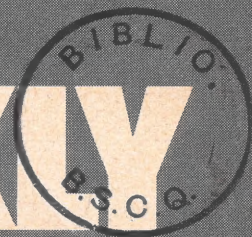


Canadian

FILM

WEEKLY



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VARIETY VILLAGE CHRISTMAS PLAY — Members of the Variety Club of Toronto and their wives were special guests at the Christmas play staged by the staff and students at Variety Village Vocational School. Shown above are John Ward (makeup director), Edward Barr, Howard Byers, Don Kehoe, Bill Craig, Rick Nugent and Jim Sheridan. Standing behind the "nurse" is Norman Seath, a staff member of the school who directed the play. Variety women prepared the lunch which followed the presentation of the play, and gave out gifts to the boys and the staff of the school. (Photo by Len Bishop)

Picture Pioneers meeting Mon., Feb. 9, in Toronto

The Canadian Motion Picture Pioneers will hold their annual meeting and dinner on Monday, Feb. 9, at the Park Plaza Hotel in Toronto. The highlight of the meeting will be the induction of new Pioneers, members of the motion picture industry who have been associated with it for 25 years or more.

The day's business session, during which reports will be presented and new officers will be elected, will be followed by a cocktail reception at 5:30 p.m., then dinner.

Toronto's Cinacity taken over by Premier

A change of policy at Cinacity in Toronto brings the theatre under the management of Premier Theatres.

Once again, Cinacity will have a special student price of \$1.00 (adults \$1.75) until 6:30 p.m., and plans are to reinstate the Friday and Saturday late-night showings of classics and experimental (underground) and Canadian films.

Willem Poolman, president of Film Canada, and a major shareholder in Cinacity, expects that a more hard-headed business approach to the management of Cinacity will result in some physical improvements to the existing facilities.



AL ISCOVE

UA appoints Al Iscove Toronto sales manager

Al Iscove has been promoted to sales manager for United Artists at its Canadian head office in Toronto.

Iscove had been Ontario sales representative for UA in Toronto, for the past seven years. He originally joined the company in 1938, in Calgary, serving first as office manager and then becoming branch manager.

He returned to Toronto in 1942 as Ontario sales representative until 1950. After a hiatus of 12 years, he returned to UA in 1962.

Fox to start 10 films before the end of 1970

20th Century-Fox will put before the cameras 10 major productions the last six months of this year, Richard D. Zanuck, president of the film company, said recently.

Pointing to wide-spread stories which have appeared in the trade press that 20th was taking a six-month feature film production hiatus, Zanuck said the company's completed roster of 17 films will be distributed throughout 1970 and well into 1971.

The 10-picture line-up includes Portnoy's Complaint, the best-selling novel by Philip Roth which is being adapted and will be produced by Ernest Lehman in September. With Portnoy, Lehman will also make his directorial debut.

Arthur Jacobs will produce Kyle, a science-fiction suspense drama in Canada beginning next September-October from a screenplay by Lewis Davidson. In addition, next December, Jacobs will begin production on Play It Again, Sam, to be based on the successful Woody Allen stage play now in its second year on Broadway.

Also on the 20th production schedule is Providence Island, the best-selling Calder Willingham novel, which John Foreman will produce. Paul Newman will star in the motion picture which starts filming at 20th's Hollywood studios next October.

Robert Fryer will begin production on The Salzburg Connection next October-November on locations in Europe. Academy Award-winning screenwriter Edward Anhalt has adapted Helen McInnes' best-selling novel.

George Roy Hill has been set to both produce and direct the screen adaptation of the recently-published book, Listen to the Silence, by David Elliott. The story of a youngster's misadventures in a mental institution will begin filming in the Fall.

Lawrence Turman, currently producing The Great White Hope for 20th, will make his directorial bow with Thoughts of a Young Stockbroker, the new novel by

Charles Webb, author of The Graduate. Turman will also produce the film at 20th's Hollywood studio next fall from a screenplay by Lorenzo Semple, Jr.

Also in the fall, John Huston will begin directing Bullet Park, based on the John Cheever novel. Huston will write the screenplay and Carter De Haven will produce.

On location in the midwest, production will begin next summer on Vanishing Point, an original screenplay by G. Kane. Michael Pearson and Norman Spence will produce the motion picture, and Richard Serafian will direct.

Completing 20th's forthcoming production schedule is The Mephisto Waltz, a suspense melodrama based on Fred Mustard Stewart's novel. Filming begins in June, with Quinn Martin producing from a screenplay by Ben Maddow. Paul Wendkos will direct.

Zanuck also stated that production on Nat Turner has been postponed until March-April of 1971.

Salute to Frank Streaan planned by Variety Club

Variety Club, Tent 28, is planning a fond, fun-filled farewell to Frank Streaan on the completion of his two-year tenure as chief barker. It will be staged along the lines of a Friars Club "roasting" with Streaan the butt of some good-natured ribbing from his Variety Club associates.

To be held on Wed., Jan. 28, at the Town & Country Palace, the Salute to Frank Streaan will begin with cocktails at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7:30 and the highlight of the evening: A program of mirth and fun. Among the Variety Club members who will tender "flattering" anecdotes about Streaan includes Sam Koffman, Henry Bauman, Jake Dunlap, Harvey Dobbs, Leon Weinstein, Larry Day and Mayor Vic Cops of Hamilton.

Tickets must be reserved in advance for the gala affair, and the price is \$5.50. More information is available by phoning 923-3443.

boxoffice news

Six Columbia releases set new holiday record

Columbia Pictures registered a phenomenal total holiday gross of \$12,374,548, which is claimed to be the biggest holiday total for any company in the history of the motion picture industry.

The total, covering the period from December 25 through January 4, represents boxoffice receipts from six top attractions on view at theatres throughout the nation, including *Funny Girl*, *Oliver!*, *Easy Rider*, *Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice*, *Cactus Flower* and *Marooned*.

Funny Girl grossed \$2,142,065 in 215 engagements. The musical is currently in general release in the U.S. following year-long reserved seat engagements.

Oliver!, winner of six Academy Awards, including best picture, racked up a total of \$2,846,500 in 280 engagements. The musical is now in general release in the U.S. following its long-run roadshow

engagements.

Easy Rider scored \$2,764,808 in 250 engagements.

Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice grossed a total of \$2,214,687 in 175 engagements. The Frankovich production won two New York Film Critics Awards honoring Dyan Cannon as best supporting actress and the film itself for its screenplay written by producer Larry Tucker and director Paul Mazursky.

Cactus Flower, starring Walter Matthau, Ingrid Bergman and Goldie Hawn, grossed \$2,125,000 in 165 engagements during the holiday period.

Marooned, the Frankovich-Sturges production starring Gregory Peck, Richard Crenna, David Janssen, James Franciscus and Gene Hackman, grossed a total of \$281,488 in its first six roadshow engagements.

New U.S. b.o. records for 'Paint Your Wagon'

Paramount Pictures' roadshow attraction *Paint Your Wagon* smashed a number of all-time house records during the Christmas and New Years' holidays in engagements across the country.

At the Cinerama Dome Theatre in Los Angeles, it set a new house record in its 10th week, ended Dec. 30, with a gross of \$43,500 and then topped that in the 11th week by tallying \$45,000.

The musical established a new high at the Tara Theatre in Atlanta in the 10th week, ending Jan. 6, grossing \$16,960. In Denver, the Alan Jay Lerner Production broke all house records at the Cooper Cinerama Theatre with a ninth week gross of \$24,250; the figure

for the 10th week, ending Jan. 6, was an outstanding \$22,500.

Making its debut at San Diego's Cinema 21 Theatre, it racked up \$23,640 for its first week, to set an all-time high for the theatre. In Fort Worth, at the Opera House, the musical production broke all existing house records by registering \$11,500 in its 10th week, ending Jan. 6, and at the Century 22 Theatre in Salt Lake City, the film established a new high in its eighth week, ending January 5, by grossing \$17,250.

Other outstanding grosses recorded during the Christmas-New Year's holidays include the Cinema 150 in Chicago, \$25,000, 10th week; Gaylynn Theatre in Houston, \$18,500, 10th week; Paramount Theatre in Portland, \$18,750, 10th week; Cooper Cinerama Theatre in Minneapolis, \$15,100, ninth week; Music Box in Seattle, \$11,000, ninth week; Cinema I in Toledo, \$14,000, ninth week, and Eastland Theatre in Columbus, O., \$14,200, eighth week.

Everything's coming up roses for Zanuck

A trio of 20th Century-Fox box office blockbusters — *Hello, Dolly!*, *John and Mary* and *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* — amassed a total of \$10,209,065 in the period covering the last two weeks of December and the first week of January in the domestic market

alone.

The 21 days covered marked the first 21 days of release of *Hello, Dolly!* which grossed \$2,610,536 during this time — \$672,695 the first week, \$962,478 the second and \$975,363 the third.

Among the pace-setting engagements for the musical are \$283,022 at the Rivoli Theatre, New York; \$185,502 at the Chinese, Los Angeles; \$60,043, Continental, Denver; \$138,597, Americana, Detroit, and \$101,181, Beach, Miami.

John and Mary, which began most of its engagements for this period the last two weeks of 1969, recorded \$2,939,723 for the three weeks covered. The figures for the first week totaled \$587,944; the second week \$1,089,343, and the third week, \$1,262,436. At the Sutton Theatre in New York, the first three weeks figure was \$105,859; at the Loop in Chicago, \$81,049; six houses in Los Angeles, \$179,609, while the first week at Theatre A, Evansville, Ind., broke the house record with \$12,199.

Butch Cassidy, which played most of its first-run engagements in October and November, registered a dazzling \$4,658,806 during the three-week period, with \$895,121 amassed for the first week; \$1,681,219 for the second, and \$2,082,466 for the third.

An example of the film's continuing drawing power is the recent Showcase engagement in the New York metropolitan area where the film recorded a huge total of \$1,265,440 in its first three weeks, following a highly-successful 12-week first-run engagement at two other houses.

Predict 'The Reivers' as a 1970 b.o. leader

The *Reivers* starring Steve McQueen could be one of the top-grossing films of 1970 it has been predicted by Eugene Tunick, executive vice-president of National General Pictures, the distributor of the Cinema Center Films production. The prediction by Tunick was made on the basis of a \$2,222,457 gross for the first week in 190 cities in the U.S. and Canada, which opened the film during the Christmas-New Year period.

All theatres, almost without exception, are continuing to report outstanding grosses and the second week's boxoffice totals loom bigger than the opening stanza with holdovers in order everywhere. The film ranks number one in many cities and original playdates have been extended as a result of initial public reaction and boxoffice returns.

'Lion In Winter' big in N.Y. showcase run

Joseph E. Levine's presentation of the Academy Award-winning Martin Poll production *The Lion in Winter* amassed sensational cumulative grosses of \$931,650 by the fifth day of its third week since beginning a 38-theatre showcase engagement in the New York metropolitan area Dec. 19 after a record roadshow engagement.

The Avco Embassy film wound up its first week Christmas Day with grosses of \$328,857. Its second week, ending New Year's Day, was bigger than the first, amounting to \$363,820. In five days of its third week, *Lion* grossed \$238,973.

Peter O'Toole and Katharine Hepburn star in the film, directed by Anthony Harvey.

TITLE CHANGES

MGM's *Country Dance*, starring Peter O'Toole and Susannah York, has been retitled *The Same Skin*. A Windward Production, *The Same Skin* is a psychological melodrama about a triangle involving a woman, her husband and her brother.

* * *

Start the Revolution Without Me will be the title of the Warner Bros. motion picture comedy about the French Revolution that stars Gene Wilder and Donald Sutherland.

The Bud Yorkin-Norman Lear production, filmed in Technicolor on location in France, formerly was called *Louie*, *There's A Crowd Downstairs!* and *Two Times Two*.

* * *

MGM's *False Witness*, starring George Kennedy, Anne Jackson and Eli Wallach, has been retitled *Zigzag*.

* * *

MGM's *The Ballad of Dingus Magee*, starring Frank Sinatra and George Kennedy, has been retitled *Dirty Dingus Magee*.

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Editor: ED HOCURA

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IT'S MY BAG

By Ed Hocura



There seems to be a lack of communication between Canadian newspapers and the motion picture industry. At least I get this impression when I get news releases from New York and Hollywood stating that things are looking up on the production front, while I read in newspapers that "the film industry is dying." It's happened too often of late that newspapers have gone out of their way to paint a black picture of the state of the film industry. Which leads me to believe that they are trying to sensationalize news that is detrimental to film distributors who pour thousands of dollars into newspaper coffers every week for expensive advertising. Honest critical reviews of movies is one thing; running stories that don't tell the full truth is another. But some newspapers seem to go out of their way in printing only one side of stories, and thereby neglecting to inform their readers that things are not as bleak as they appear to be. A good example of this was a story carried in *The Spectator* in *Hamilton* last week, written by **Sheilah Graham**. What *The Spectator* may not have realized in publishing this story was that Miss Graham has an axe to grind against the film industry, and now that she has fallen on hard times she is selling stories that intimate that she knows "where it's at" today. But she's only kidding herself. While there was a time that **Louella Parsons**, the late **Hedda Hopper** and **Sheilah Graham** had the power to make the film industry tremble with their syndicated columns, things have changed today. Where once the **Louis B. Mayers**, the **Harry Cohns** and the **Jack L. Warners** dared not make a move without first consulting the "Big 3," studio heads today have nothing to fear from people like **Sheilah Graham**. And why should they? It took many years for Hollywood to realize that they could survive without the journalistic support of a trio of highly-paid "sob sisters" who gave their readers the impression that no studio decision was made unless they were consulted first. And the new breed of studio heads in Hollywood today have shown little signs of catering only to syndicated gossip columnists. Which is the way it should be. Since last year was the first since 1957 that movie theatres in the U.S. topped the one billion dollar mark, it makes **Sheilah Graham's** claim that "the film industry is dying" seem all the more ridiculous. But since sensational news is what most Canadian newspapers are only interested in publishing, I expect that **Sheilah Graham** will continue to sell her one-sided stories. I also feel that the news releases I get from New York and Hollywood almost always end up in newspaper wastebaskets. Can't have good news cluttering up entertainment pages. It might give readers the wrong impression.

* * *

NAMES THAT PASS IN THE NIGHT: My apologies to **Bill Morland** for misspelling his name last week. The least I could have done for the genial advertising and publicity director of **Astral Films Ltd.** is misspell it only once, instead of twice. . . . **Kurt Russell** will be the first Hollywood star to visit Toronto in 1970 on a publicity tour. Just turned 18, Russell has his first starring role in **The Computer Wore Tennis Shoes**, and he'll be in town next week to talk about the **Walt Disney Productions** pre-Easter release. . . . **Genevieve Bujold** has come in for some nice praise from the **New York** critics for her performance in **Universal's Anne of the Thousand Days**. Now if she could cop an **Academy Award** nomination next month, this should pave the way for some nice beaucoup publicity for **The Act of the Heart**, another forthcoming release from Universal, written, produced and directed by **Paul Almond**. Who happens to be Miss Bujold's husband, the talented ex-CBC producer who hit the international film scene with **Isabel**, and hopes **The Act of the Heart** will make it two hits in a row for Canadian productions starring his lovely wife. . . . **Orval Fruitman** of **Cinepix** has good reason to be smiling these days. His company is distributing **Z** in Canada, and the French-made film with the odd title was chosen as the best film of the year by the **New York Film Critics' Circle**. . . . Beg, borrow or steal a copy of the Jan. 21 issue of the **Toronto Telegram** to read **Clyde Gilmour's** hilarious review of the **Cassius Clay-Rocky Marciano** computerized fight. . . . And speaking of humorous writers, did you know that **Harry Purvis** has gained national recognition with his contributions to **TV Guide**, **Variety** and **Mad Magazine** but has gone



ANNIVERSARY PARTY — Famous Players in Montreal held a pre-Christmas movie party for 2,170 members of its Golden Age Movie Club at the Palace and Chateau Theatres. Maurice Phaneuf, general manager of United Amusement Corp. Ltd., and Mrs. Sonia Levi, of the B'nai B'rith women, are shown above surrounded by members of the Golden Age Club in the lobby of the Chateau Theatre at the sixth anniversary party. Membership in the club now totals 40,000 senior citizens.

Canadian Film Co-operative gets CFDC financial help

The Canadian Film Development Corporation has announced in Montreal a grant of \$4,110 to the Canadian Film Co-operative, a newly-organized national association of film co-operatives from Montreal, Toronto, London and Vancouver. The grant will be applied to the cost of printing and distributing a bilingual catalogue listing feature films and short films made by independent Canadian film-makers.

Through its decision to aid the Canadian Film Co-operative with the publication of a catalogue, the CFDC, a Crown corporation mandated to promote the development of a feature film industry in Canada, is providing some practical help to film-makers, especially feature film-makers working in the area of low-budget productions, in solving the problem of distributing their films.

The catalogue will be sent to every potential film user in Canada and a substantial part of the revenues accruing from film rentals through the Film Co-operative will be passed on to the film-maker.

Film-makers wishing to distribute their films through the Canadian Film Co-operative a non-profit organization, should send technical data, film synopsis, and a brief biography to the Canadian Film Co-operative, % Kirwan Cox, 1128 rue Cheneville, Montreal 128, Que., before Feb. 1, 1970. A copy of the film must be de-

posited at that address, or at: Inter-media, 1972 West 4th Ave., Vancouver 9, B.C.; Canadian Film Makers Distribution Centre, Room 201, 341 Bloor St. West, Toronto 181, Ont.; Co-operative Cinéastes Indépendants 2026 est, rue Ontario, Montréal 133, Que.; London Film Co-op., 1055 Lombardo Ave., London, Ont.

Film-makers with suitable films are urged to get in touch with one of the above organizations as soon as possible to ensure inclusion of their films in the proposed catalogue.

Crawley-Volkswagen to team on arts film

The performing arts in Canada will star in their own multi-language motion picture to be released world-wide next November.

Crawley Films Ltd. has been commissioned by Volkswagen Canada Ltd. to produce a film portraying the current high stature of Canada's theatre, music, opera, ballet and other performing arts, for distribution throughout Canada and abroad.

This is the second major film to be produced for the company by Crawley. The award-winning film **Global Village** depicting Canada's significant place in international trade was released as a centennial project in 1967.

unrecognized in his home town in **Hamilton**? A quiet, unassuming guy, Purvis has been sweating it out lately waiting for director **Michael Sarne** to pay him for submitting special dialogue for **20th Century-Fox's** forthcoming release, **Myra Breckenridge**. All he keeps getting is letters from Sarne telling him that the stuff he submitted was "great." . . . I don't count any day wasted when **Al Iscove** drops in for a chat. The newly-appointed Toronto sales manager for **United Artists** is welcome at all times, and I admire him for his candor in talking about his years in the film business.

production news

CARRIE SNODGRESS has been signed to star opposite **Richard Benjamin** in **Diary of a Mad Housewife**, to be produced and directed by **Frank Perry** under his Frank Perry Films banner for **Universal** release.

Negotiations have been concluded between **Columbia Pictures** and **Sidney Poitier** for him to star in **Kane**, an original screenplay which Poitier's company, **E & R Production Corp.**, will film in March. **James Goldstone** will direct the film, his second theatrical effort. He made his directorial debut last year with **Winning**. Joel Glickman will serve as producer on the project with Ernest Kinoy writing the screenplay which tells the contemporary story of a black man who returns to his small home town in the South to be with his family during a troubled period.

★★★ **Brenda Vaccaro**, currently appearing in the Dustin Hoffman-Jon Voight starrer, **Midnight Cowboy**, has been signed by producer Stan Margulies to co-star with **Elliott Gould** in the David L. Wolper production for **Universal**, **I Love My Wife**. The satirical comedy dealing with contemporary young marrieds is set to go before the cameras Jan. 28, with Mel Stuart directing from an original screen play by Robert Kaufman.

★★★ **Frank Lewin** has been signed to compose the music for **The Angel Levine**, starring **Zero Mostel** and **Harry Belafonte**. The picture, directed by Academy Award-winner **Jan Kadar**, is now editing and will be released by **United Artists**. The Angel Levine cast also presents **Ida Kaminska** (star of Kadar's Oscar-winning **The Shop on Main Street**), **Milo O'Shea**, **Gloria Foster**, **Eli Wallach** and **Anne Jackson**. The picture is based on a short story by Pulitzer-Prize-winner **Bernard Malamud** and was adapted for the screen by **William Gunn** and **Ronald Ribman**.

★★★ **Kate Reid** has been signed by producer-director **Robert Wise** to co-star in **The Andromeda Strain**, which he will put before the cameras at **Universal** late next month. She will report to the studio after she finishes her current assignment in **The Side Glances of a Pigeon Kicker**. Miss Reid joins James Olson as the only starring cast member set thus far for Wise's film version of the best-selling Michael Crichton novel. ★★★ **Alastair Reid**, one of Britain's leading young directors, has been signed to direct **National General Productions'** upcoming dramatic feature, **The Pied Piper**. The assignment of the 28-year-old Reid to direct his first American film will provide an outsider's view of the current trend towards violence in America. Reid most recently directed the independently-produced **Baby Love** in England. **The Pied Piper** is scheduled to begin filming early in February in Holly-

wood and various southwestern locations.

George Peppard has been set for the starring role in **Universal's** new western drama, **Hark**, his sixth motion picture for the studio, which goes before the cameras early in March with **Robert Arthur** producing.

Hark, based upon an original screenplay by **William Roberts**, is set in the California gold country during the 1800's. ★★★

Peppard, who recently returned from four months of filming in Spain, last starred for **Universal** in **House of Cards** with Inger Stevens. Prior to that, he starred with Mary Tyler Moore in **What's So Bad About Feeling Good?**, with Dean Martin and Jean Simmons in **Rough Night in Jericho**, with Raymond Burr in **P.J.** and with Rock Hudson in **Tobruk**.

Arthur's most recent **Universal** production was the Shirley MacLaine starrer, **Sweet Charity**, and, before that, he produced the action-adventure film, **Hellfighters**, starring John Wayne and Katharine Ross.

Producer M. J. Frankovich has announced an all-star cast for his first 1970 production, **"Doctors' Wives,"** set to go before the cameras at the **Columbia Pictures** studio in mid-February.

Academy Award-winner Dan Taradash wrote the screenplay for **Doctors' Wives**, based on the best-selling novel by Frank G. Slaughter. Gorge Schaefer has been signed to handle the all-star cast.

Frankovich announced that **Richard Crenna** and **Gene Hackman**,

both starring in the Frankovich-Sturges production of **Marooned**, will star in the film along with Dyan Cannon, recently honored by the New York Film Critics for her role in Frankovich's **Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice**. Also starring in **Doctors' Wives** will be Janice Rule, Rachel Roberts, Diana Sands, Cara Williams, Ralph Bellamy and John Colicos.

* * *

Cynthia Myers, former **Playboy** Magazine "Playmate," has been set by producer-director **Russ Meyer** for a co-starring role in **20th-Century-Fox's** **Beyond the Valley of the Dolls**, currently filming in Hollywood.

Miss Myers, making her motion picture debut in the role of a hard rock nightclub singer, was featured in the recent national **Playboy** calendar.

* * *

Where's Papa?, starring **George Segal** and based on the forthcoming novel by Robert Klane, will be produced in New York City for **United Artists** release. The picture will be directed by **Carl Reiner** as a Jerry Tokofsky-Marvin Worth production. It will be filmed from a screenplay by Klane.

* * *

Sid and Marty Krofft Productions, Inc., **Universal Studios** and the Kellogg Co. of Battle Creek, Michigan, will join hands to produce a motion picture involving 87 costumed puppet-like characters. The full-length film will be available for summer, 1970, theatrical release.

The motion picture, a Sid and

Marty Krofft production, is called **Pufnstuf**, based on the television series.



Actor-director Ratch Wallace takes time out to discuss a scene in **The Match** with Ed McNamara. The short film, based on a story by Stephen Leacock, is being made in Toronto.

'The Match' hopes to strike it rich

The Match, a film based on Stephen Leacock's short story **Borrowing a Match**, is currently in production in the Toronto area, coinciding with observances of the centenary of the humorist-historian's birth.

The film is the first venture into directing by Canadian actor Ratch Wallace, who also wrote the script. Wallace was the star of David Selter's film **The Offering**, and has since played featured roles in both Paul Almond's films — **Isabel**, and the soon-to-be released **Act of the Heart**.

The cast is headed by Ed McNamara, Robert Goodier, Kyle Edwards, Eric Clavering, Michael Conway and Murray Westgate.

The film is being produced by Team Productions, Ltd., a division of Cornucopia Films. The director of photography is Richard Stringer. Derek Harris-Lowe is the producer. Digby Peers is associate producer. Distribution will be handled through Paul Almond. The film is 35 mm widescreen, in colour.

Four films in production as MGM launches '70 slate

Implementing the plans set by James T. Aubrey, Jr., MGM's president and chief executive officer, four feature films will go before the cameras during the next three months, it was announced by Herbert F. Solow, vice-president in charge of production.

In revealing the list of newly-scheduled productions, Solow stated, "this will be the start of a carefully planned period of increasing activity at MGM."

Shooting will begin shortly on **The Ballad of Dingus Magee**, a western satire starring Frank Sinatra and based on the novel by David Markson. Burt Kennedy will direct from his own screenplay.

Scheduled for a late winter start is **The Travelling Executioner**, starring Stacy Keach who won critical

acclaim on Broadway in **Indians** and will shortly be seen in **End of the Road**. Screenplay for the action drama about an itinerant executioner who travels the southern prison circuit.

Sweet William, a contemporary drama set in a coed ivy league prep school, is from a screenplay by Gwen Davis based on her novel. Miss Davis' **The Pretenders** is a current best seller. The fourth film scheduled, tentatively titled **Corky**, is a story of a self-centered young man caught in a descending spiral of degradation.

"We anticipate that six or more additional pictures will start before the end of the summer. This approach to production is indicative of the aim of management to go forward with a strong program of theatrical features," Solow stated.

FOR SALE

Projection equipment: Two Century heads, two Northern Electric sound heads, two Nogul arc lamps, two take up magazines, two 35 mm. projector stands, two utility rectifiers, one pair hand rewinders, one complete Northern Electric sound system, film cabinet with 12 sections, rewind table, electric rewinder, one pair Cinemascope lens, one pair Stanard lens, and theatre seats.

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